

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 050720Z MAR 76J ZFG
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5403
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USUN NEW YORK 224

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 0680

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, HU, UR, US

SUBJ: ALLEGED CHANGE IN WORLD BALANCE OF POWER

1. IN LINE WITH OTHER "SOCIALIST STATES" HUNGARIAN
IDEOLOGUES AND THEIR PROPAGANDA ORGANS HAVE CLAIMED
WITH FREQUENCY IN RECENT YEARS -- AND ARE
NOW CLAIMING WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY -- A SIGNIFICANT
SHIFT IN WORLD BALANCE OF POWER FROM "IMPERIALIST
CAMP" TO "SOCIALIST COMMONWEALTH."

2. DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE NOTED THAT FIRST SECRETARY
JANOS KADAR REPEATED THIS RECURRING THEME IN HIS
FEBRUARY 28 SPEECH IN TBILISI. KADAR SAYS THAT
"GROWING INFLUENCE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST AND
WORKERS' MOVEMENT AND SUCCESS OF NATIONAL LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS HAVE CHANGED BALANCE OF POWER IN WORLD" AND
THAT "EVEN IN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES REALISTIC POLITICAINS
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HAVE RECOGNIZED SENSELESSNESS AND HOPELESSNESS OF

ENGINEERING AN OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR."

3. DURING CONVERSATION WITH SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS MARCH 1 THIS ALLEGED SHIFT IN POWER BALANCE WAS MAJOR TOPIC OF CONVERSATION. TIBOR ZADOR, MFA INSTITUTE'S SENIOR ANALYST, OVER PAST FEW YEARS HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT DEFENSIVE IN DISCUSSING EE FOREIGN POLICY AND HAS NEVER CONVINCINGLY DEFENDED SOVIETS. DURING MARCH 1 CONVERSATION, HOWEVER, ZADOR UNEXPECTEDLY AND EXPANSIVELY TICKED OFF "SOCIALIST CAMP'S FOREIGN POLICY VICTORIES OVER PAST TWO YEARS."

4. ZADOR CITED "DEFEAT OF U.S." IN VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA; VICTORY OF MPLA IN ANGOLA; INCREASE IN STRENGTH OF ITALIAN AND SPANISH CP'S; CLOSER SOVIET-INDIAN RELATIONS; AND FINALLY "OBVIOUS WEAKENING OF U.S. INFLUENCE AND PRESTIGE IN UN." ZADOR CLAIMED "NATO'S AUTOMATIC MAJORITY" IN UN HAD BEEN REVERSED AND IT WAS NOW INCONCEIVABLE THAT ANY PROPOSAL OFFENSIVE TO SOVIET UNION COULD COMMAND MAJORITY IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

5. ZADOR THEN DISCUSSED INCREASED U.S. RECOGNITION OF SOVIET MILITARY STRENGTH AND SAID THAT SALT I AND VLADIVOSTOK CONSTITUTE EVIDENCE THAT U.S. HAS FINALLY ACCEPTED "REALITIES OF WARSAW PACT MILITARY MIGHT." HE SAID SOVIET UNION IS NOW IN POSITION TO PROTECT "ITS LEGITIMATE INTERESTS" THROUGHOUT ENTIRE WORLD AND "U.S. MUST REALISTICALLY ACCEPT THIS FACT OF LIFE."

6. COMMENT: LATER IN CONVERSATION ZADOR REFERRED TO JANUARY MEETING IN WARSAW OF COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARIES. FROM THAT ALLUSION WE ASSUME THAT ZADOR'S REMAKRS REFLECT DECISION TAKEN AT THAT MEETING TO MANIFEST PUBLICLY MORE CONFIDENT AND EXULTANT POLITICAL LINE.
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